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L. Spruell

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: **James Brian VROTACOE, et al.**
Serial No.: 09/893,757 ✓
Filed: June 27, 2001
For: **DEVICE AND METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING A TUBULAR PRINTING
BLANKET**
Art Unit: 2854
Examiner: Stephen Funk

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OCT 23 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 15, 2002

Sir:

In response to the office action dated July 15, 2002, please reconsider the above-identified application based on the following remarks and amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the following paragraphs:

a'

[0007] Commonly-assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,257,140, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein, describes gapless tubular printing blankets produced continuously and cut to length as desired. The sleeve and print layer are "continuously" formed in that the sleeve forming station continues to form an additional portion of the sleeve while the print layer forming station applies the print layer to the previously formed portion of the sleeve. Wound tapes or cross-head extruders are used to apply various layers.